Close

By James

Middle School Good Times

Paw Paw Middle School, Paw Paw, MI 49079 December 1993 25¢

VISIT WITH SANTA CLAUS

Brent Schimnoski, Kristin Myers and Lauren McKenzie decided to talk to Santa one on one, so they took a walk over to his temporary home at Maple Hill Mall and this is what they got.

B, K and L:" Why do bad kids get coal, an unrenewable resource?"

Santa: "It's tradition."

"How do you get around the world in one night?"

Santa: "That's a secret. I can't tell you or it wouldn't be a secret."

B, K and L: "Is Rudolph's nose radioactive? And if not, what makes it glow?"

Santa: "No it's not and I'm not sure. It's one of those things I don't know."

B , K and L: "What do you do in the off-season?"

Santa: "Just sit around , get fat, and rest."

BRAVO M.S. BAND

The Middle School Cadet Band and the High School Symphony Band performed at the Middle School last night, December 9.

Those who attended enjoyed two things last night. They listened to the wonderful music both bands played and the wonderful sing-along. by m. sellinger

HAPPY CHANUKAH

The Chanukah season began yesterday and will continue for eight days.

Chanukah is a Jewish festival that occurs in December each year. The Hebrew month Kislev is the same as our December. It makes the reconsecration of the temple of Jerusalem after its recapture from the Syrians in 165 B.C.

A miracle was recorded in the Talmud, holy writings of Jewish thought. Chanukah celebrates the burning of a day's supply of pure olive oil for eight days until fresh jars of clean oil could be brought into the temple.

They wrote down the accounts for the eight days during which the candles are kindled during Chanukah. An eight-branched candelabrum has become the symbol of this holiday. by a. atwater

WHY CHRISTMAS TREES?

Lauren Hentchel and Jennifer Yerty had been wondering how the Christmas tree thing got started. How did they get electrical lights back then? They did some digging into the "tree thing" and found out "some stuff."

Martin Luther (For some of us who don't know or remember , he was a German monk among other things.) apparently saw the evergreens and lights and it had a

big effect on him. Trees became a symbol of the Savior and the celebration of His birth.

Ancient, pre-Christian cultures used Christmas trees, too, for winter festivals. People like the Chinese, Egyptians, Hebrews and others thought it was cool to have greenery , fire and lights in one place. Said Lauren and Jennifer., "We still aren't sure why electric lights, but some things were meant to remain a mystery, we guess."

Also Lauren wanted to add, for whatever reason, that they discovered that the Everglades are in Florida. They found that out while doing their research!

DEAR DR. DEMENTED,

Hi. I just wanted someone to talk to. How are you? I went to the SADD dance. It was certainly sadd because some people had no dates. I personally had figs. Write me back please and solve my problem for me. I am really sadd.

Revolting and Maddening

Dear R. and M.,

What IS your question? If I read it backwards will a subliminal message appear?

Dear Dr. Demented.

I hav a speeeling probelum. Kin u help mee?

Confuseed

Dear Confuused,

Wat you haf two du iz studee reel haurd. Then u'll bee abll too spel az goud az mee.

TAKING GIFTS FOR GRANTED?

Christmas is the time of year when everyone gets together and gives and exchanges gifts. You should not take these things for granted. There are a lot of people who do not receive these gifts. The parents of these needy children will maybe give them a used toy. Most of us get new toys every year. So remember the needy this holiday season.

Bring your cans to your literature class so we can pass on the gifts we have. Also donate old (but clean) coats, boots, mittens and hats.

by a. reidt

WHAT IS RESPECT ALL ABOUT?

How many of us know what the word "respect" means? I would guess that only about ten percent do. Why such a low number? Simple. If we knew the definition of respect we wouldn't treat the teachers and other students the way we do. Only about ten percent of us treat each other and the teachers the way they deserve to be treated.

My definition of respect is "No mouthing off, no kissing up, and always doing what is asked of you." Hey, not everyone may agree but I really don't care because I am sticking to my definition.

I can't understand why everyone can't see how much work teachers and administration puts into our education. I am really sorry if this offends anyone but I think that this has gone on long enough and I feel that something needs to be said.

One more thing, thinks about how each of us would feel if we were teachers and our students treated us the way we treat the teachers? by s. t.

JACK'S FAVORITE FADS

Lamb: a stupidly funny face made by T.J. Gould and Andrew Mansberger.

Basketball: Lucas Harling and others play the ball bouncing game of basketball at boring ol' break.

Sagging Pants: Many people wear 'em. See them for details on this saggy issue.

Humor: something funny. Is your boyfriend or girlfriend acting dopey? They may have caught the humorous bug. by j.conway

COMMERCIAL EVENTS

Here are some of the many different types of great Christmas movies out there for this Christmas. Try them

Tim Murtins' The Nightmare Before Christmas.

Jim Hensen's The Muppet Babies Christmas Carol

And last but not least

Look Who's Talking Now!

by a. hathaway

NEWSPAPER GRAFFITI by a.surdy

Did Mr. Zolp really lose his toupee last year? a. surdy

PPMS rocks! b. cross

Does Mrs. Smith really have a crush on Mr. Ruesink?

Homework bites. b. merwin

Notre Dame rocks. a surdy

Go Sumo Smith. j. stull

Don't call Mrs. Pasman anything bad. carrie k.

DEAR SAM/ SAMANTHA,

Why are guys so confusing? One minute they're nice to you and funny. The next they're rude and insulting. Why is this?

Wants to Know

Dear Wants,

Women have been trying to figure that out since the stone ages and all any one knows if they just are... especially at this point in our lives. Girls apparently do the same to boys, according to them.

Guess people just have trouble deciding how they feel about each other one day to the next. Give 'em time. If you have a particular person who's doing this all the time, ask them about it. Tell them they're confusing you.

JR. ERICKSON'S CORNER

Wouldn't it be weird if ...

We launched cows instead of missles?

Football was played on unicycles?

Baseball was played with pigs?

Santa stuffed your stockings while you were wearing them?

THE TWO WEEKS OF CHRISTMAS (BREAK) by hagg and conway

On the first week of Christmas break, my parents said to me, "Shovel the driveway, clean the garage, pick up your bedroom, vacuum the parlor, take out the trash, and get a present for me."

On the second week of Christmas break, my parents said to me, " You've had ten silly sleepovers, five ski parties, three shopping frenzies, two bad colds, one million zits, zero thank-you cards, and still no present for me."

Too bad.

SEVENTH GRADE BBALL

This year's seventh grade boys' basketball team includes the following: Warner Offord, Nick Hess, Dave Holzworth, David Williams, Don Sellon, Scott Wielenga, Randy Hendrixson, Weston Selent, Jason Babin, Dan Smith, Josh Tessar, Jeff Hodges, Jon McCormick, Kevin Kirby, John Clark, Justin Avery, Joe Boven, Josh Lanphere, Ian Berner, Jake Greensley, Mason Nondorf, Andy Dentler, Robert Strong, Paul Lounsbury, Josh Ernstes, Casey Wentzel, Jacob Arndt, Jonathan Hughes, Shawn Winnell, and Bob Fodor.

The coach is Mark Hindenach.

HATS ON ! (TO HAT DAY!)

Student Council's Hat Day was held November 24 and it was great.

Hats of many different kinds were there: sports hats, Notre Dame and Michigan mostly, fashion hats, cowboy hats, hunter hats, plain hats, and a lot of other hatwear too.

We raised over $200 on hat permits. It's been said that we want to use the money to paint a picture of a redskin on our gym wall.

I hope we do. What do you think? by k. lietzau

CHRISTMAS

Carols
Holly
Ringing bells
Icicles
Snowmen
Trees white with frost
Merry
Aunts and uncles coming to visit
Santa is arriving very soon.
by k.h.

ARE YOU A GOOD FRIEND?

Try this survey of your attitudes and actions.

1. You and your friend had been planning to go to a concert for a week. Suddenly your friend gets grounded for breaking curfew, Do you :

a. Sell the tickets and go another time.

b. Give the tickets to some other friends.

c. Go with a different friend

d. Stay at home and be miserable by yourself.

2.Your friend gives you what must be the ugliest sweater for your birthday. Do you:

a. Put it with all the other ugly sweaters and things you've gotten.

b. Say you really really didn't have to.

c. Say I couldn't possibly.

d. Rewrap it and give it to them, saying what a coincidence.

3.You found a nasty note about your friend. Do you:

a. Throw it away.

b. Show it to your friend.

c. Beat up the person who wrote it.

d. Pretend you didn't read it and pass it on hoping your friend doesn't see it.

4. Your friend picks out the tackiest pants from the store. You don't want to hurt his/her feelings so when they ask you what you think you:

a.Tactfully pick out a nice pair and say, "Hey try these on."

b. Say other pants would look better on them.

c. Say they look horrid.

d. Tell them they look like a cow in the pants.

Give yourself 1 point for every a, two for every b, three for every c, and four for every d.

4-5 points . You are a great friend. You try as hard as possible not to hurt your friends' feelings. You stick up for them as much as possible.

6-8 points. You are loyal. You state your true feelings but with little care for your friend's feelings.

9-16 points. You don't value your friendship much. You are not loyal. I'm not saying you're not a good person but I hope your friend has other friends.

by w. lagrande

ST. NICHOLAS LEGEND

The idea of Santa Claus developed from stories about a real person named Nicholas. Historians know only a little about him .

He was probably born in Patara in what is now Turkey. When he was nineteen, he became a priest. He later served as a Bishop of Myra near Patara. He died during the 300's A.D.

According to the legend St. Nicholas aided a poor nobleman who had three daughters. No men would marry the girls because they had no dowry. (That was the money a bride's family gave to the groom when they married.)

St. Nicholas threw three bags of money through the nobleman's window to show people that the daughters now had dowries. As a result the daughters were able to get married. From this gift the legend of St. Nicholas as a man who brings gifts developed.

The customs of giving gifts on a certain day in winter was practiced before Christianity began. After Christianity was well-established, St. Nick became the symbol of the custom among Christians.

by r. lawson

GOOFY HOLIDAY HOROSCOPES

by j. groenland

Sagitarrius: K-Mart will supply you with your Christmas needs.

Capricorn: I think taking your family to McDonalds is pretty classy.

Aquarius: For a good practical joke, give your family empty boxes.

Pisces: You need to go the Mall of the Americas to find the best Christmas bargains.

Aries: To find clothes that fit just right, you should go to a tall man's store.

Taurus: With your allowance

the dollar store is your kind of place.

Gemini: West Edmonton Mall is the place for you.

Cancer: Waldenbooks will make your Christmas grand.

Leo: Meijers has good deals - try there.

Virgo: Your best bet is Good will.

Libra: The school supply store could save the day...pencils, bookmarks, pens.

Scorpio: Hudson's Godiva chocolates could be a winner for your friends and family.

CHOIR CONCERT CLASSY

The Choir Concert in the middle school auditorium Nov. 18 was spectacular.

There were a lot of varieties of songs. First, they did a classical song called "Dona Nobis Pacem," then they sang "Rocky Top", a country song,and from there they went to a rap called"The Music Fact Rap." Next was "Study Hall Blues", a real hit. Finally they sang a spiritual called "Chariot's Comin',"

They can't wait til their next performance and they hope you can't either! by k. hamilton

CHOIR ROSTER

The choirs under the direction of Mrs. Lois Helland consist of the following people:

Amy Baltmanis, Jessica Baugher, Jessica Beck, Erin Bell, Katrina Carothers, Stacy Charron, Jeremiah Ewert, Missy Forbes, Megan Frazier, Todd Freeman, Juanita Gonsalez, Kerrie Hamilton, Renee Harris, Alison Hathaway, Jericho Groenland, Heather Houston, Alison Jasinsky, Jenny Jennings, Erin Jordan, Nick Kuntz, Winonah LaGrande, JEssie Lossie, Sarah Mitchell, Justin Nelson, Suzzanne Overacker, Jessica PRice, Amanda Pyard, Geoff Reid, Angela Reidt, Jennifer Reits, Weston Selent, Adam Shipley, Ahlea Streich, Desiree Summerville, Rene Rennhack, Hanah Terrell, Mandi Thomasma, Jenna Van Atta, Stephnie Van Loon, Corey Vyverman, Brian Winters, Heidi Wilhelmi, Josh Will, Crystal Wing, Amana Yonkman, BEcky Ortiz, Jessica Chandler, Amanda Cook, Erin Coleman, Desiree Danger, Amy DeRuyscher, Lauren Hentchel, Kelly Ignacek, Heather Middaugh, Amanda Nelson, Josh SAre, Elizabeth Schmucker, Kristin Stoynoff, Marjie Taylor, Jason SChultz, Erica Selby, Hans Terrell, Josh Waller, and Jennifer Yerty.

by k. hamilton

THE DECEMBER GOOD TIMESers

Marjie Taylor, Heather Middaugh, Jenny Ayres, Michelle OWens, Jessica Chandler, Rob OSwald, Justin Harrison, Casey Mendenhall, Rachel Lawson, Amber Atwater, Chip Wright, Ken Thomasma, Kim Emerson, Joe DiPrima, Andy KRause, Michele KRumrei, Brandy STacy, Kristy Miller, Ryan Piecyk, Brent Shimnoski, Lauren McKenzie, Kristin Myers, Jenny Kellerman,

Eileen Pardike, Cheryl Glidden, Michelle Sellinger, Bonnie Pursley, Holly Waite, Jenny Yerty, Lauren Hentchel, Sarah Thomas, and Andy French. Sixth and seventh graders include Rosemary Beyer, Kim Holcomb, Jack Conway, Jim Hagg, Heather Sumner, Catherine O'Keefe, Erin Jordan, Kerrie Hamilton, Jericho GRoenland, Kristy Lietzau, Zach Erickson, Steve Hamilton, Angela REidt, Justion Talbot, Justin Avery, Alison Hathaway, Alison Surdy, Brandon Hewitt, Brent Latta, Any Goodman, Winonah LaGrande, and Carolyn Greenman. NEXT MEETING 6th and 7th gr. Jan. 18 1st hour; 8th gr., Jan. 19. 7th hour.

DO WE NEED A NEW NAME?

One of this issue's survey questions was. "Does the Good Times need a new name?" You readers suggested quite a few so we'll run them past you and let you think about it before we go to a vote ourselves.

The Redskin Flashes was one suggestion made by Randy Hendrixson. Justin Nelson thought Swanson's News was a good idea. Kerrie Hamilton said, The Redskin Review.

Jared Rotzien seriously (we think) suggested Paw Paw Middle School Newspaper. Bob Anderson thought "Bob's Paper" was a good idea. Lucas Harling suggested Paw Paw Supreme while Joshua Hochmuth thought Junior High Times was a good idea.

Katie Abshagen thought Paw Paw Press was good,Tonya Ramsey liked Redskin Power Rangers, and Mark Myers thought Paw Paw Preview worth a try.

Laura Sutherland suggested we just leave it as it is. What do you think? Let us know by leaving messages in Mrs. Swanson's mailbox in the office or by telling one of the staff members listed in the masthead. (That's newspaper talk for the big list of who produced the paper.)

STRANGE CHRISTMAS GIFTS WE HAVE RECEIVED

Casey Charters got a football. Steve Stoner got Ninja Turtle Shoes. Angela Creamans once had a mechanical duck while Gared Owsiny got an onion on a stick. Justin Harrison recalls getting Spiderman pajamas. Paul Rohr got a bag of rocks!

Nicole Sumerville got "My brother's underwear.. yuck," and Randy Hendrixson got a Barbie doll.

Travers Bohenstiel remembers getting "tablets that make the bath water turn different colors." Kind of a way to make your kid an Easter egg eh? Billy Joe Bob (aka Lucas Mansberger) once got a jelly donut with kiwi jelly.

Tonya Ramsey received a paper doll house. Melissa Kovach got a bag of coal. Amy Ten Brink got a fish tank "When I didn't have any fish." David Geer got a "Fisher-Price fishing pole two years ago."

Tony Koppers got a three-legged hamster. George Richmond got a box of crayons at 13. Mandy Meeth says she got something that

was already hers "But they wrapped it up and gave it to me anyhow."

Brandon Conklin got "Neon socks." And Santa must've needed to make a point about his room to Ryan Piecyk when he left him a "Dirt Devil."

Hope your Christmas isn't too strange!

WHERE WILL WE WANDER FOR THE HOLIDAYS THIS YEAR?

Michele Krumrei will head for "South Carolina to visit my brother." Dan Smith heads for Ludington. Bianca Cross is going to Pennsylvania.

Weston Selent is going to Florida for a Christmas soccer tournament. Bob Fodor says he's headed for Montana, California and Texas.

Lee Krefman will head for Lexington, Kentucky while Alison Jasinsky will go to New York. Marshall Bailey will head for St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Most of us will just be at home as Gary Crapoff, Richie Meyers,Tony Borello and Rob Oswald explain. Says Rob, "Stuck at home with my ...shudder...family."

Lots others will head for grandma's as will Elaine Bussema, Sarah Carr, and Samantha Allen.

Finally a really huge number of us seem to think we'll spend Christmas "Nowhere." David Lakey, Sarah Hall, and Ryan Yerty are in that category. Have a merry holiday wherever it finds you.

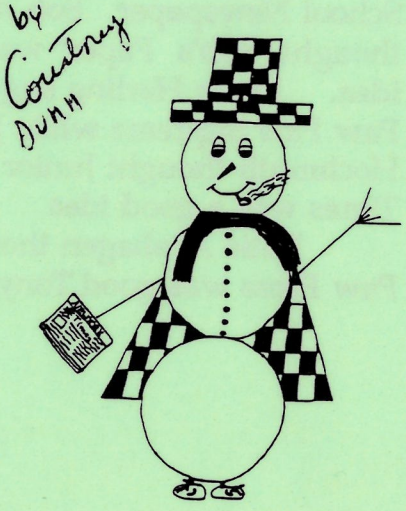
The 8th grade basketball team is hard at work under Coach Chuck Carpentier.

The team includes the following boys: Tom Johnson, Jared Rotzien, Ken Thomasma, Jeremy Crump, Chip Wright, Justin Mount, Marc Hodges, Kevin Tenant, Dan Miller, Nate Varnesdeel, Pat Lee, Joe Watson, Andy Seidel, Doug Blower, and Darin Meyer. Also playing are Steve Barrett, Greg Barr, Eric Nitz, Zach Harling, Ryan Piecyk, Travers Bohenstiel, Jason Griffin, Andy Krause, Tim Stagg, Jason Schultz, Doug Hart, Jeff Kandler, Rich Winter, Andy Ball, Kevin Podkol, Jose Leal and Dan Haire. by K en and Chip

Soushi Doodles

1 cup shortening
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
3 cups flour
1 tsp. cream of tartar
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp soda
2 tsp. cinnamon
3 lb. Soushi

Bake 8-10 minutes at 350. Bon Appetit! chef mckenzie



CHRISTMAS TIME
Christmas is a time of snow
Of holly rings and mistletoe,
Presents underneath the tree
A time of cheer for you and me.

Christmas is when the ground does whiten
The house the Christmas tree does brighten,
Children dream of Christmas morn
And the house is always warm.

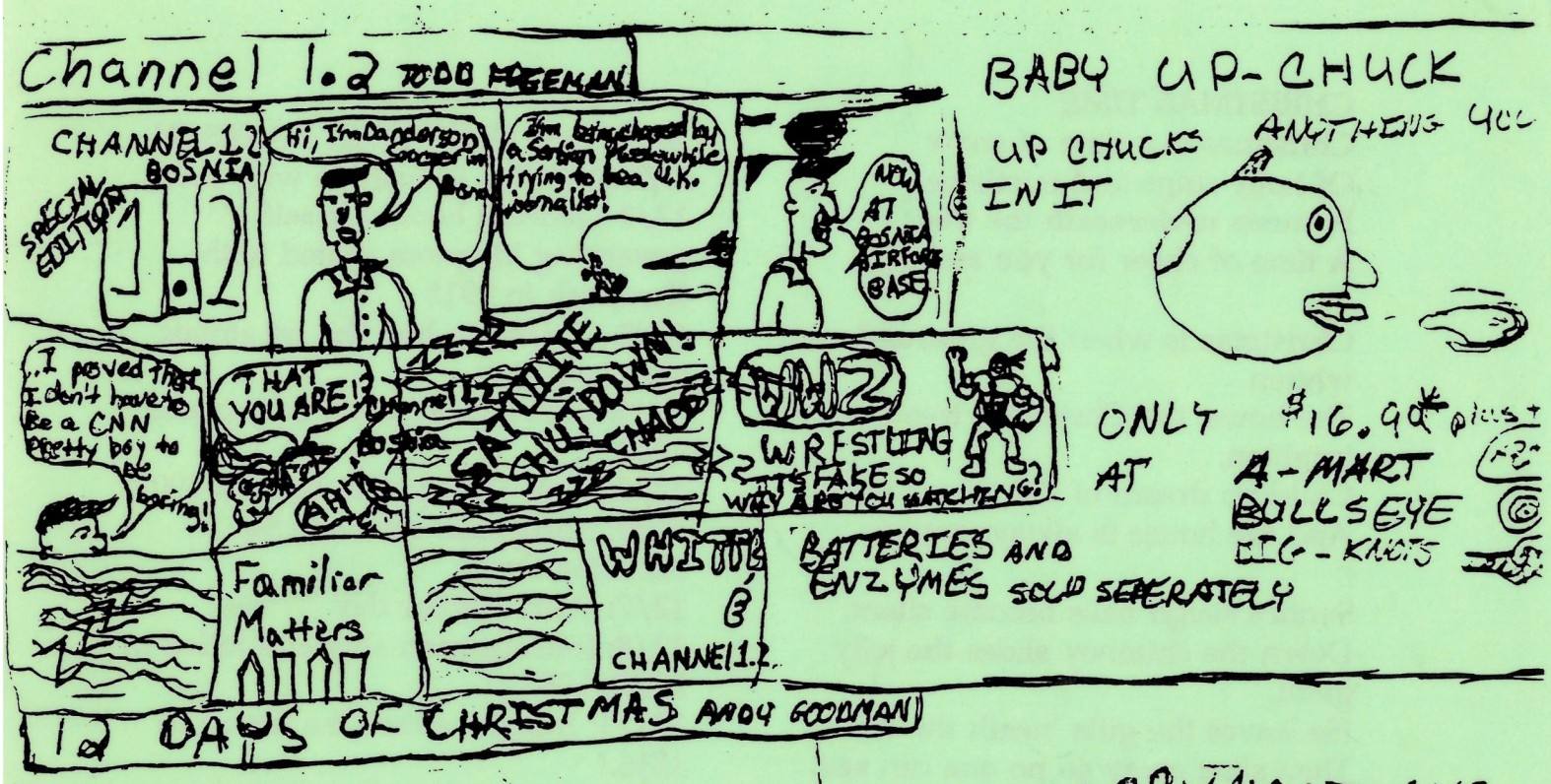
Santa's sleigh bells become silent,
Down the chimney slides the jolly giant,
He leaves the gifts 'neath the tree
Then slips away so no one can see.

Christmas is a special season,
When forgotten is all reason
Traded in for love and joy
Shown in the faces of girls and boys.

PICTURED below are 8th graders Brent Shimnoski, Lauren McKenzie, and Kristin Myers...with Santa at Maple Hill Mall. (see p.1 story).

RARE and UNKNOWN DATES IN DECEMBER... (you'll see why soon)
12/1 : Iceland became a self-governing kingdom united with Denmark in 1918
12/2 : Scientists had the 1st atomic chain reaction.
12/3: First human heart transplant, 1967
12/5: Walt Disney was born in 1901.
12/6: Europeans celebrate St. Nicholas Day
12/7: Pearl Harbor day
12/8: John Lennon shot and killed in NYC, 1980.
12/11: Indiana enters the Union in 1816.
12/12: Marconi receives the first radio signal across the Atlantic, 1901.
12/14: Washington died at Mt. Vernon, 1799.
12/16: Beethoeven born 1770.
12/19: Continental Army camped for the winter at Valley Forge in 1777.
12/20: U.S. takes over Louisiana in 1803.
12/21: Stalin, Soviet dictator, born in 1879.
12/25: Clara Barton, Red Cross founder, born 1821.
12/28: Iowa enters the Union, 1846.
12/29: Texas enters the Union, 1845.
12/30: Rudyard Kipling born 1865.
12/31: New Year's Eve, also known in European countries as SylvesterEve.
by l.mckenzie

The winning snowman is Courtney Dunn's. See Mrs. Swanson for your prize today. (see p. 3)



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS AND04 GOODMAN

Day 1. The bus of the Partrige Family

Day 2. two turtle Dove bars

Day 3. three ball point pens

Day 4. four cattle herds

Day 5. FIVE GOLDEN SHOWER RINGS

Day 6. six donkeys braying

Day 7. seven swans -a- sinking

Day 8. eight spider silkings

Day 9. nine hunters lancing

Day 10. ten lords-a-sleeping

Day 11. eleven pipers plumbing

Day 12. twelve alarms buzzing